



Leaders of Environmental Responsibility

6/26/07 Scoping Mtg.
CA Ocean Plan Amend.
Deadline: 7/27/07 Noon

July 27, 2007



Song Her, Clerk to the Board
Executive Office
State Water Resources Control Board
P.O. Box 100
Sacramento, CA 95812-0010

Subject: Comments on California Ocean Plan Amendment-Radioactive Issues

Dear Ms. Her:

The Industrial Environmental Association (IEA) has the following comments on the proposed changes to the California Ocean Plan. In the scoping document, it is proposed that the State Water Resources Control Board amend the Ocean Plan to include numerical limits for radioactivity. The limits proposed are based on drinking water limits for radioactivity. These limits are far more stringent than is necessary to protect the health and safety of the public and the environment.

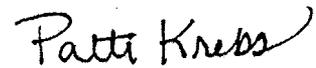
Secondly, the State Water Resources Control Board does not have the authority to regulate radioactivity that is regulated under the Atomic Energy Act, particularly for nuclear power plants. This authority under Federal law resides with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). This position has been affirmed in some NPDES permits issued by Regional Water Quality Control Boards in the state in the past. It has also been affirmed by State Water Resources Control Board legal council at several public hearings in the state over the years.

The State Water Resources Control Board can regulate radioactivity in drinking water. But with the exception of a few locations where desalination plants are operating or proposed, the large majority of the California coastline is not used as a drinking water source, and there is currently no scientific basis for making such a change to the Ocean Plan.



Therefore, we request that the Ocean Plan Amendment under consideration by the Board make no changes to the Ocean Plan based on radioactivity. If you have any questions, you can call me at (619)-544-9684.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Patti Krebs". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "P".

Patti Krebs
Executive Director
Industrial Environmental Association